

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6224

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NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO,US

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COURTESY CALL ON THE PRESIDENT

1. THIS MORNING FOLLOWING CALL ON CROWN PRINCE HASSAN BY SENATOR MCCLURE, CROWN PRINCE DREW ME ASIDE FOR SHORT PRIVATE CONVERSATION. AS YOU WILL SEE FROM SEPTTEL, HE IS CANCELLING HIS VISIT TO MEXICO IN ORDER TO ARRIVE BACK IN JORDAN BEFORE DECEMBER 12. HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES THROUGH THE 9TH OF DECEMBER, LEAVING ON THE 10TH.

2. HIS PURPOSE WOULD BE TO PROVIDE MORE TIME IN WHICH TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH YOU AND TO PAY A SHORT COURTESY CALL ON THE PRESIDENT.

3. WHILE I DO NOT KNOW THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE, I WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND A SHORT (15-20 MINUTE) PRIVATE COURTESY CALL FOR THE CROWN PRINCE. HE MET THE PRESIDENT AND CALLED UPON HIM WHEN PRESIDENT FORD WAS STILL VICE PRESIDENT. HE HAS UNDOUBTEDLY NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF OTHER ARAB PRINCES IN THE PAST HAVE CALLED AT THE WHITE HOUSE DURING THEIR TIME IN WASHINGTON.

4. HASSAN HAS DEVELOPED INCREASING PRESTIGE IN THE ARAB WORLD. HE IS THE ONLY ARAB LEADER TO HAVE MADE

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SIGNIFICANT PERSONAL AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT

OF THE SINAI ACCORD AND HE DID SO TWICE (IN GERMANY AND PAKISTAN). HE HAD A VERY SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO EGYPT AND IS REGARDED BY THE EGYPTIANS HERE AS A PRIMARY AND SYMPATHETIC CONTACT.

5. A COURTESY CALL ON THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE PERCEIVED BY THE JORDANIANS AS A SPECIAL COURTESY TO THE CROWN PRINCE AND TO THEM. AFTER OUR LONG AND SOMEWHAT HARRASSING PUBLIC EXCHANGES ON THE HAWK, IT WOULD HELP TO SEE A SOMEWHAT BETTER TONE TO OUR RELATIONSHIP. MY SINGLE CAUTION WOULD BE THAT WE ARRANGE THE COURTESY CALL IN LOW ENOUGH KEY AND FOR SHORT ENOUGH TIME TO DISTINGUISH IT VERY CLEARLY FROM THE MEETING WHICH THE KING USUALLY HAS IN HIS REGULAR VISITS WITH THE PRESIDENT.

6. IN ADDITION, PRIOR TO SCHEDULING FINALLY ANY CALL ON THE PRESIDENT, I WOULD ALSO WANT TO DO THE KING THE COURTESY OF CHECKING WITH HIM FIRST. IF THERE IS A REAL POSSIBILITY OF PUTTING IN A 15-MINUTE CALL ON THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE, I COULD MENTION IT TO THE KING WHEN I SEE HIM ON HIS RETURN AT THE END OF THIS WEEK AS SOMETHING WE HAD THOUGHT OF INCLUDING IN THE CROWN PRINCE'S SCHEDULE BUT WANTED TO LET HIM KNOW ABOUT BEFOREHAND.

7. IF THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO CHANCE OF WORKING THIS OUT IN THE FEW DAYS FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S ASIA VISIT, I WOULD HOPE YOU WOULD TELL ME RIGHT AWAY SO THAT I COULD INFORM THE CROWN PRINCE THAT SCHEDULES ARE TOO FULL, ETC. TO WORK IT OUT. I KNOW HE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY THING YOU COULD DO, BUT I WOULD PREFER TO BE THE ONE TO LET HIM KNOW IT CANNOT BE WORKED OUT IF THAT INDEED IS THE CASE.

8. HIS INTEREST IN MEETING WITH YOU IS IN PART PREDICATED ON HIS HOPE TO BE ABLE TO TALK WITH YOU FOR A FEW MINUTES ABOUT JORDAN'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. WHILE THIS MAY NOT BE THE MOST INTRIGUING SUBJECT FOR A BREAKFAST OR OTHER SHORT MEETING, CROWN PRINCE HAS FELT FRUSTRATED IN THE PAST BY HIS INABILITY TO MAKE HIS VIEWS AND CONCERNS

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KNOWN TO YOU. GENERALLY HE HAS BEEN YOU WILL RECALL, ONLY ACCORDED A FEW MINUTES AT THE END OF HOUR LONG POLITICAL AND SECURITY CONVERSATIOONS. SOMEHOW DURING HIS BREAKFAST RECEPTIONS, HE HAS NEVER FELT IT POSSIBLE TO WARM TO THE SUBJECT WITH SO MANY OTHERS PRESENT. I KNOW HE WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF SOME TIME TO MEET WITH YOU COULD BE WORKED OUT DURING HIS EXTENDED STAY. PICKERING

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